

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously presented) A method of lubricating the interface between a container and a moving conveyor surface to reduce frictional resistance between the conveyor and the containers transported thereon, the method comprising applying, by direct contact with no dilution of a lubricant concentrate, an effective amount of a liquid lubricant composition between a container and a contact surface of the moving conveyor to reduce frictional resistance between the conveyor and the containers transported thereon, the lubricant comprising an aqueous solution comprising at least one weight percent of a polysiloxane composition based on the liquid lubricant.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim the 23 wherein the liquid lubricant is sprayed directly onto at least a portion of the contact surface of the moving conveyor.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim the 23 wherein a liquid lubricant is applied to the moving conveyor through a mechanical device in direct contact with the conveyor surface.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the liquid lubricant additionally comprises a fluorinated organic compound

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the fluorinated monomeric organic compound comprises a perfluorinated monomeric organic compound.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the fluorinated organic compound comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of a dimer, an oligomer and mixtures thereof of at least one fluorinated organic monomer.

29. (Previously presented) the method of claim 26 wherein the fluorinated organic compound comprises a compound comprising a polymer comprising at least one fluorinated organic monomer containing less than 70 wt% fluorine, based on the total weight of monomer in the polymer.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27 wherein the fluorinated monomeric organic compound comprises a fluorinated surfactant, a fluorinated alkane, a fluorinated ether, a fluorinated amine or mixtures thereof.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the lubricant is present in the form of a gel, emulsion, paste or dispersion of a liquid lubricant in an aqueous phase.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the formulations additionally contain at least one antimicrobial component selected from the group of alcohol, an aldehyde, an antimicrobial acid, a carboxylic acid ester, an acid amide, a phenol, a phenol derivative, a diphenyl, a diphenyl alkane, a urea derivative, an oxygen and nitrogen acetal and formal, a benzamidine, a isothiazoline, a phthalimide derivative, a pyridine derivative, an antimicrobial surface-active compound, a guanidine, an antimicrobial amphoteric compound, a quinoline, a 1,2-dibromo-2,4-dicyanobutane, a iodo-2-propynyl butyl carbamate, iodine, an iodophor, a peroxide or mixtures thereof.

33. (Previously presented) The method claimed in claim 23, wherein the formulations contain one or more antimicrobial compounds selected from ethanol, n-propanol, i-propanol, butane-1,3-diol, phenoxyethanol, 1,2-propylene glycol, glycerol, undecylenic acid, citric acid, 2-benzyl-4-chlorophenol, 3,3' methylene bis(6-bromo-4-chlorophenol), 2,4,4'-trichlor-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether, N-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-urea, N,N'-(1,10-decanediyl-di-1-pyridinyl-4-ylidene)-bis-(1-octaneamine)-dihydrochloride, N,N'-bis-(4-chlorophenyl)-3,12-diimino-2,4,11,13-tetraazatetradecane diimidoamide, quaternary ammonium compounds or alkyl amines, guanidines, amphoteric surfactants and mixtures thereof..

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the formulations additionally contain at least one component selected from the group of polyhydroxy compounds.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the polyhydroxy compounds are selected from the groups of polyalcohols and carbohydrates.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34 wherein at the polyhydroxy compound comprises an alkanediol, an alkanetriol, a polyethers derived thereof, glucose, arabinose, ribulose, fructose, the oligo- or polysaccharide derived thereof and their esters and ethers.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the formulations additionally contain at least one fluorinated component selected from the group of fluorinated polyhydroxy compounds.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein the polyhydroxy compounds are selected from the groups of polyalcohols and carbohydrates.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37 wherein at least one polyhydroxy component selected from a polyhydroxy alcohol, an alkanediol, an alkanetriol, polyethers derived thereof, glucose, arabinose, ribulose, fructose, the oligo- or polysaccharides derived thereof and their esters and ethers.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the formulations contain other components selected from the groups of surfactants and solubilizing agents.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the lubricant comprises at least one alkyl polyglycoside.

42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the formulations have a water content of less than 20% by weight, based on the formulation as a whole.

43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the water content is less than 10% by weight, based on the formulation as a whole.

44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein substantially no foam is formed from the lubricant during the conveying of the containers on the conveyors.

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein, by comparison with conventional lubricants which are diluted with water by a factor of more than 100 in automatic conveyor installations, the frictional resistance between the conveyor and the containers transported thereon are reduced by more than 20% for the same quantities by weight of active lubricating components applied to the conveyor.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 for the conveying of a plastic container.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46 wherein the plastic container comprises at least one polymer selected from the groups of polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyethylene naphthenate (PEN), polycarbonate (PC), polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46 wherein the plastic containers are 2 liter bottles.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 for the conveying of containers in paperboard packs.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the conveying surfaces of the conveyor system are made of plastic.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the contact surfaces of the conveyor system are made of metal.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the metal comprises aluminum and the container comprises a can.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein additional antimicrobial agents are separately added during application.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 53 wherein the antimicrobial agent comprises an organic peracid, chlorine dioxide or ozone.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the formulation is applied to the conveyor belts without preliminary dilution with water using an applicator selected from a brush, a sponge, a roller, a wiper or a spray.

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein there is no further proliferation of microorganisms on surfaces in contact with the lubricant.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the number of microorganisms on surfaces in contact with the lubricant is reduced.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 for the conveying of a food container.

59. (Previously presented) An aqueous lubricant formulated to lubricate the interface between a moving conveyor and a container to reduce frictional resistance between the conveyor and the containers transported thereon, the lubricant composition comprising an aqueous solution comprising at least one weight percent of a polysiloxane polymer composition based on the liquid lubricant.

60. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ lubricant of claim 59 wherein the liquid lubricant additionally comprises a fluorinated organic compound

61. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ lubricant of claim 59 wherein the fluorinated monomeric organic compound comprises a perfluorinated monomeric organic compound.

62. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ lubricant of claim 60 wherein the fluorinated the organic compound comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of a dimer, an oligomer and mixtures thereof of at least one fluorinated organic monomer.

63. (Currently amended) ~~the method~~ The lubricant of claim 60 wherein the fluorinated organic compound comprises a compound comprising a polymer comprising at least one fluorinated organic monomer containing less than 70 wt% fluorine, based on the total weight of monomer in the polymer.

64. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ lubricant of claim 61 wherein the fluorinated monomeric organic compound comprises a fluorinated surfactant, a fluorinated alkane, a fluorinated ether, a fluorinated amine or mixtures thereof.

65. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 62 wherein the organic monomer is a perfluorinated organic monomer.

66. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 65 wherein the lubricant comprises mixed oligomers of a fluorinated organic monomer.

67. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 64 wherein compounds obtainable by reacting tetrafluoroethylene and a perfluoroalkoxy vinyl ethers.

68. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 64 wherein the formulation comprises a form of liquid solution or emulsion.

69. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 59 wherein the formulation comprises at least one antimicrobial component selected from the group of alcohol, an aldehyde, an antimicrobial acid, a carboxylic acid ester, an acid amide, a phenol, a phenol derivative, a diphenyl, a diphenyl alkane, a urea derivative, an oxygen and nitrogen acetal and formal, a benzamidine, a isothiazoline, a phthalimide derivative, a pyridine derivative, an antimicrobial surface-active compound, a guanidine, an antimicrobial amphoteric compound, a quinoline, a 1,2-dibromo-2,4-dicyanobutane, a iodo-2-propynyl butyl carbamate, iodine, an iodophor, a peroxide or mixtures thereof.

70. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ lubricant in claim 59 wherein the formulations contain an antimicrobial compound selected from ethanol, n-propanol, i-propanol, butane-1,3-diol, phenoxyethanol, 1,2-propylene glycol, glycerol, undecylenic acid, citric acid, 2-benzyl-4-chlorophenol, 3,3'-methylene-bis(6-bromo-4-chlorophenol), 2,4,4'-trichlor-2'-hydroxydiphenyl ether, N-(4-chlorophenyl)-N-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-urea, N,N'-(1,10-decanediyl-di-1-pyridinyl-4-ylidene)-bis-(1-octaneamine)-dihydrochloride, N,N'-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3,12-diimino-2,4,11,13-tetraazatetradecane diimidoamide, a quaternary ammonium compound or an alkyl amine, a guanidine, or an amphoteric surfactant.

71. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 59 wherein the formulations additionally contain at least one fluorinated polyhydroxy compound.

72. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 71 wherein the polyhydroxy compounds are selected from the groups of polyalcohols and carbohydrates.

73. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 71 wherein at least one polyhydroxy component selected from polyhydric alcohol, an alkanediol, an alkanetriol and the polyethers derived thereof and glucose, arabinose, ribulose, fructose and the oligo- and/or polysaccharides derived thereof and their esters and ethers.

74. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 71 wherein the polyhydroxy compound comprises an alkanediol or an alkanetriol.

75. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 59 wherein the formulation comprises a surfactant or a solubilizing agent.

76. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 75 comprising an alkyl polyglycoside.

77. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 59 wherein the formulations have a water content of less than 20% by weight, based on the formulation as a whole.

78. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 59 wherein the water content is below 10% by weight, based on the formulation as a whole.

79. (Currently amended) ~~[[the]]~~ The lubricant of claim 59 wherein, by comparison with conventional lubricants which are diluted with water by a factor of more than 100 in automatic conveyor installations, the frictional resistance between the conveyor and the containers transported thereon is reduced by more than 20% for the same quantities by weight of active lubricating components applied to the conveyor installation over a certain period of time.

80. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 59 wherein additional antimicrobial agents are separately added during application.

81. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 80 wherein the antimicrobial agent comprises an organic peracid, chlorine dioxide or ozone.

82. (Previously presented) The lubricant of claim 59 wherein about one part by volume of lubricant is diluted with about 100 and 10,000 parts by volume of diluent.